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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: Susumu §  
KOBAYASHI, et al §  
§  
Conf. No.: To Be Assigned § Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned  
§  
Appln. No.: To Be Assigned § Examiner: To Be Assigned  
§  
Filing Date: Herewith § Attorney Docket No.:  
§ 601560-4US(03P508US/KRE/P33218-01)  
Title: ELECTROLYTE MEMBRANE FOR A FUEL CELL, ELECTROLYTE MEMBRANE  
ELECTRODE ASSEMBLY FOR A FUEL CELL, AND A FUEL CELL

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**

Enclosed are copies of each of the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or B, which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The enclosed references are cited and discussed in the Background section of the application. U.S. Patent No. 4,988,583 is the counterpart to Japanese Patent Application No. 2711018; International Publication No. WO 92/22096 is the counterpart to Japanese Patent Application No. 7-501417; and International Publication No. WO 94/09520 is the counterpart to Japanese Patent Application No. 8-507403.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

In accordance with the official waiver posted July 11, 2003, wherein the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office officially waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting copies of each cited U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent Application Publications with respect to applications filed after June 30, 2003, we have not included copies of such cited U.S. patent

and U.S. Patent Application Publications. However, we will provide copies upon request. Copies of the foreign references are attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or B be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document(s) be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

Susumu KOBAYASHI, et al



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WWS:vj  
Enclosures

Form PTO/SB/08A				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Application Number</b>	To Be Assigned
				<b>Filing Date</b>	Herewith
				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Susumu KOBAYASHI, et al
				<b>Group Art Unit</b>	To Be Assigned
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	To Be Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	601560-4US(03P508US/KRE/P33218-01)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Exr Initials	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-YYYY	T <sub>1</sub>
	Country Code	Number	Kind Code (if known)			
	WO	92/22096	A2	Ballard Power Systems, Inc.	12-1992	X
	JP	08-045517	A	Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo KK	02-1996	X*
	WO	94/09520	A1	Ballard Power Systems	04-1994	X
	JP	2002-203578	A	Matsushita Electric Ind. Co. Ltd.	07-2002	X*
	JP	2002-083614	A	Mitsubishi Electric Corp.	03-2002	X*
	* = Abstract Only					

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Exr Initials	Include Name of first Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (where appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date (in parentheses). If a book, also include publisher and city and/or county where published.	T <sub>1</sub>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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T<sub>1</sub> - Place a check mark if complete document is in English; otherwise, place a letter "A" if only an English abstract is attached.